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linking the computer to at least one user terminal through a data communications link;  
displaying, at the user terminal, information concerning selected attendance right  
option(s), as well as up-to-date option valuation information;

[A computer-based method as set forth in claim 23] wherein said option valuation  
information is computed based on user-input probabilities concerning option-vesting  
contingencies.)

### REMARKS

Claims 1-38 were pending. Claims 1-24 and 26-38 have been cancelled without  
prejudice or disclaimer, and claim 25 has been amended. Accordingly, claim 25 is presented  
and at issue.

#### 1. Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8, 9, 23, 28, 29, 33, 37, and 38 under 35 USC  
102(b) as being anticipated by Walker, U.S. Patent No. 5,797,127 (hereinafter, the Walker  
'127 patent). Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 23, 28, 29, 33, 37, and 38 have been cancelled.

#### 2. Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

The Examiner rejected claims 5, 10-13, 17, 20, 22, and 24 under 35 USC 103 as being  
obvious in view of various combinations of the Walker '127, Wagner, and DeLorme patents  
(Wagner is cited as U.S. Patent No. 4,903,201, and DeLorme is cited as U.S. Patent No.  
5,948,040). Claims 5, 10-13, 17, 20, 22, and 24 have been cancelled.

#### 3. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claim 25 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but  
indicated that claim 25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of  
the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 25 has been  
redrafted in independent form to include all of the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening  
claim 23. It is submitted that claim 25 is now in allowable form.

While Applicants have cancelled claims 1-24 and 26-88, Applicants traverse the rejection of these claims and, in particular, the basis for such rejections.

#### 4. Summary

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully solicited, as it places the application in condition for allowance. All unallowed claims (claims 1-24 and 26-38) have been cancelled. Claim 25 was amended in accordance with the Examiner's indication that claim 25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Reconsideration in view of the present Amendment and accompanying Remarks is respectfully requested. The pending claim is in condition for allowance, and such action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven R. Bartholomew

Reg. No. 34,771

Morgan, Lewis, & Bockius, LLP

1701 Market Street, 8th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Tel. No. 215-963-5071

April 24, 2003

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that I have a reasonable basis that this paper, along with any referred to above, (i) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231,

DATE: April 30, 2003

NAME: Janice Soulas

SIGNATURE: Janice Soulas

**MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIM UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 (C)(1)**

25. A computer-based method for marketing attendance right options, the method comprising the steps of:

storing, in a computer, information related to attendance right options;

linking the computer to at least one user terminal through a data communications link;

displaying, at the user terminal, information concerning selected attendance right option(s), as well as up-to-date option valuation information;

~~A computer based method as set forth in claim 23~~ wherein said option valuation information is computed based on user-input probabilities concerning option-vesting contingencies.